

RESOLUTION NO. 8 - 2016

**RECOGNIZING** Dr. Myrtis Powell's longstanding philanthropic contributions in the Cincinnati region and her legacy as a leader in a variety of local organizations and committees.

WHEREAS, Dr. Myrtis Powell took evening and part-time classes at the University of Cincinnati in order to earn a bachelor's degree in Administrative Management and a master's degree in Sociology, all while working full time, and subsequently earned a doctorate in Sociology and Higher Education Administration, as well as a certificate in Executive Management from Harvard Business School; and

WHEREAS, after first being denied a position at the University of Cincinnati because it did not employ African Americans at the time, Dr. Powell later worked in various administrative positions at the University, including assistant to the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, before becoming the first African American to hold the post of Associate Dean; and

WHEREAS, as Vice President for Student Affairs at Miami University from 1989 to 2002, again trailblazing as the first African American in an upper management position at that university, Dr. Powell worked to increase the number of minority students and faculty members and instituted an enrollment management structure for admissions and financial aid; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Powell led the Cincinnati Youth Collaborative from 2002 to 2004 and in that time stabilized the administration, oversaw fiscal sustainability, and established a succession leadership strategy for the organization; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Myrtis Powell served as co-chair of the Agenda 360 planning process, as a Governing Board member of the Greater Cincinnati Foundation, as an associate member of the Women's Alliance, a scholarship and leadership organization for minority female students, and as a board member in numerous organizations including the Mayerson Academy; she was named a Great Living Cincinnati, a Cincinnati Enquirer Woman of the Year, and a YWCA Career Women of Achievement; she was awarded the Urban League's Glorifying the Lions award and Lighthouse Youth Services' Beacon of Light Award; and she was recognized by Advocates for Youth Education; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Cincinnati, State of Ohio:

Section 1. That the Mayor and this Council recognize and express their sincere appreciation for Dr. Myrtis Powell's lifelong contributions as an advocate for Cincinnati youth and for the region.

Section 2. That this resolution be spread upon the minutes of Council and that copies be sent to Dr. Myrtis Powell of Cincinnati through the office of Councilmember Yvette Simpson.

Passed: February 18, 2016

Attest: [Signature]  
Clerk

[Signature]  
Mayor

Submitted by Councilmember Yvette Simpson